

THE JEWISH LONGING TO ESCAPE FROM THE LANDS OF BONDAGE

Quest of Freedom May Become Greatest Racial Movement World Has Witnessed.

In a remarkably well-informed study of Jewish conditions in Poland, Galicia, Rumania and the Ukraine, the writer of the "In Foreign Lands" column in The Philadelphia Evening Bulletin, portrays what he calls "the Jewish Quest of Racial Freedom," or in other words the urge to emigrate.

The United States and Palestine are the two great objectives of this impending migration which, in the opinion of the writer, "may become one of the greatest racial movements the world has witnessed."

The number of Jews in Poland, he says, is estimated at about three million, or equal to the number resident in the United States. For the most part settlers in the cities, they form compact groups closely united by religious and racial associations, and one of their complaints has been that in the redistricting of Poland, for the purposes of apportioning the representation in the local and national councils, the territorial lines have been so drawn as to disregard important local groupings. Meanwhile, Premier Paderewski and the Polish Congress have ratified the treaty with its recognition of Jewish minority representation, although, it is said, that only nine delegates have been accorded to the Jews in a Parliament of four hundred members. But the Jew in Poland is different from his kinsmen in Galicia and Silesia. Despite the Russian limitations on the

admission of Hebrew students to the colleges and secondary schools of Poland, their characteristic orders for study gained admittance for them and they have many "intellectuals" among their leaders. The impoverishment of many of the small traders and of the humbled workers, however, has been accentuated by the destitution of the war. Leroy-Beaulieu has written, "I can certify that nothing in Europe is so poor, no beings earn their crust of rye bread with such bitterness, as nine-tenths of the Russian Jews." With greater force his words apply to the Galicians.

Rumania's hesitation to sign the treaty with Austria, except with reservations which would annul the clauses regarding the minority rights of the Jews, was in contrast with the acquiescence which President Masaryk, of Czecho-Slovakia, has shown therein. While there are about a million Jews in Galicia and half that number in Czecho-Slovakia, there are few more than a quarter of a million in Rumania. But "the little Romans" of the Balkans claim other zones which contain many more Jews. With the Bolsheviks claiming Ukraina on the east, the Poles on the north, and Rumania on the west, ready to snatch off Bessarabia and the Bukovina, the fate of the Ukraine still is unsettled. Roaming bands of troops are reported there as venting their hatred upon the Jews, three million of whom reside in the Ukraine, and this zone is said to be scheduled next for further inquiry.

Throughout all these territories Zionists have organized bureaus and societies for regulating the migrations anticipated when peace is fully re-

stored. Recently a correspondent of a Brooklyn daily drew a vivid picture of a great exodus of Jews from Poland and the Ukraine. A million and a half was given as the number engaged in an epoch-making tramp to Judea, and a pen picture was sketched of miles of caravans, with old men and old women tottering under heavy burdens and plodding patiently along with young artisans and workers, the children trudging alongside of mothers carrying their babes. But a he-gira of such size could not be censored. Many Jewish emigration bureaus are working in Poland, the Ukraine and Galicia, regions containing probably two-thirds of all the Jews, with two great objectives, the United States and Palestine.

If the age-old dream of Palestine for the Jews is realized, however it is believed future immigrants may turn in that direction. From an idealistic speculation, Zion has become in a twelvemonth almost a reality, a partly pledged recognition of racial right. Regulatory measures to restrain the flow of refugees and zealots are being devised in numerous countries to prevent the too rapid population of Palestine. Settlement units of one hundred thousand have been proposed in America, a Frenchman suggests thirty thousand settlers the first year, a German Zionist suggests sending out twenty thousand a year for the first decade, doubling the quota for the second decade, and, for the third decade, dispatching sixty thousand a year until, at the end of thirty years, Palestine would contain a million and a half Jews, or more than ten times the number it has at present.

The interruption of commerce, the

lack of resources, the artificial restrictions of the ephemeral cabinets formed in the making of new states, combine to hold back migration which may become one of the greatest racial movements the world has witnessed.

MUCH TO BE THANKFUL FOR.

Rabbi Sternheim Say This Thanksgiving Is Really Significant.

Thanksgiving, 1919, is set in a great hour in the world's life, and there never before has been such a Thanksgiving in the history of the world, said Rabbi Emanuel Sternheim in his sermon yesterday morning at Mt. Sinai Temple. Although the last anniversary was celebrated after the armistice was signed, it was far too soon for us to have recovered normality, he said. Rabbi Sternheim chose as his subject "Thanksgiving."

"It is by backward looking along the years that we appraise aright the spirit of Thanksgiving that is not rightly ours today," said Rabbi Sternheim. "We are proudly thankful not only for the peace that has been won but at the price at which we won it. The glad self sacrifice of those among our best in power and promise, whose young, strong, eager lives were unhesitatingly given for our country's honor and for the betterment of the world, is an endearing asset in the treasure house of what we reverently hold most dear.

"Our gaze passes from what has happened to what is happening. What do we see as the guerdon which our brave men have won for us? We call it peace. And peace means not simply the end of the strife, but the spirit,

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